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Navigating nature

Brush up on your skills before heading on your next adventure. Read more on page 4.

Oh, deer

Learn about the winter habits of these four-legged neighbours on page 6.

Get to know the Huskies

Boyd Stahlbaum shares his excitement for playing hockey in Haliburton. Read more on page 15.

A nuthatch walks down a tree, looking for food missed by other birds. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

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An appetite for music

LAURIE JONES
Special to County Life

Dan Manley conducts *The Prayer*, one of the songs the Highlands Chamber Orchestra performed during their Welcome Back! concert on Saturday, Nov. 26, their first one back since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

The first time I had lunch at school, I was about seven years old, in Grade 2, and my parents had signed me up for a term of semi-private piano lessons being offered in the school basement at a very reasonable cost. It was a super opportunity since we had no instruments at home, not even a record player, and I got out of walking my sister home. I was always nervous going down there, so I would start with a visit to the girls washroom, its circular granite hand washing sink sprinkled lukewarm water on my hands when I pressed my foot on the metal ring, clods of TP clung to the asbestos panelled ceiling, and the stalls never really closed. I liked the trip-trap of my saddle shoes on the linoleum.

Through the high, caged windows of the "music room" we could see kids feet kicking ball in the school yard. A stark space, the "music room" was furnished with some desks and one tired looking piano. Each child had a turn at the bench with Mrs. Hobson. That is where, pressed up against her tweed skirt and sweater, I learned to play familiar melodies as the others waited their turn, poked holes in their oranges (as one brute did), rustled lunch bags, carved their names in desks, or sat quietly trying to remember the tune. After we'd eaten and had our lessons, Mrs. Hobson handed out sticks, triangles and small tambourines and commenced to play *In An English Country Garden* as we marched in a circle, a warm-up for the next part of the lesson. This was the best part, for I adored the unfolding of our cardboard fingerboards, 88 key replicas of the speckled beige upright's keyboard. Mrs. Hobson would play as we followed along, sticky fingers picking out the notes until the bell rang releasing us until the next week. By the end of term, my cardboard ivories looked tattered and worn, but I never lost the feel of them, nor did I lose the visual of the way a C scale looks, and sounds.

My musical education had begun.

In the 60s, Grades 7 and 8s could opt for band or choir homeroom. I'd learned I was not a natural at piano by then and was assigned to the clarinet, an instrument I carried back and forth from Grade 7 until Grade 13, somehow without seeing any improvement. The most fun I had in band was marching in the Santa Claus parade in our kilts, jaunty caps, scarlet jackets and knee socks playing lousy renditions of *De Souza!* The bitter cold march from Dupont and Bathurst to downtown Toronto was a comical display of school and Christmas spirits.

I never did make the school jazz band and envied those who did for the ease with which they made music. They had talent! Perhaps that's why I still keep trying, joining church and women's choirs from time to time, drum circles and most recently, The Rails End Ukuladies. It was six years ago that Haliburton Folk Society's Winter Folk Camp set me on the path toward becoming a more confident and competent player. I signed up for "Campfire Guitar" with a wonderful teacher, October Brown. She has become a friend, is now my musical mentor and sometimes therapist. Like Mrs. Hobson, October is patient, and at turns demanding, and she puts the "play" into playing for me. She reminds me to *focus* when I drift and, most of all, to listen, listen, listen.

Like they all say "If you want to be a good musician you need to *listen*."

Are you looking for an opportunity to learn or play? There are so many in Haliburton County! Haliburton County Folk Society, Highlands Chamber Orchestra, Highlands Opera Company Youth Club and Haliburton Music Exchange are good places to begin. Looking for an open jam? Try Limbic Collective or Rails End The Ukuladies. It's never too late to learn to play or listen to music!

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County Life

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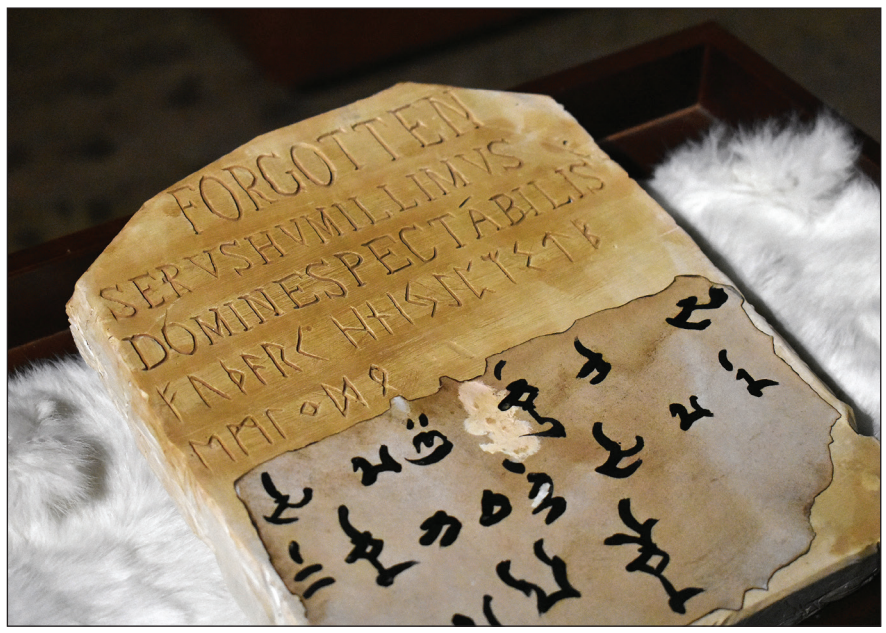
Without Individuality is a charcoal drawing by Hunter Barry a Grade 12 Haliburton Highlands Secondary School visual arts student.



Student expression at Rails End

The Rosetta Thing was created by Lucas Wingell, a Grade 12 Haliburton Highlands Secondary School visual arts student and is part of HHSS's annual student exhibition at Rails End Gallery in Haliburton called *Forgotten*. The exhibit runs until Dec. 17. Visit railsendgallery.com/f/forgotten to read the students' artist statements. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Colleen Petric speaks about her acrylic on canvas piece, *Interconnected,* during the opening of HHSS's annual student exhibition.

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Outdoor skills: A workshop series

RICK WHITTEKER
Special to *County Life*

Everyone goes into the backcountry for different reasons, whether for exercise, stress relief, relaxation or all of the above. Leaving the trailhead, camp or put-in point with a pack of skills will help you stay safe and happy on the trail. Being able to estimate distance and rate of travel, knowing how to orient a map from landforms or using a compass, how to use a safety bearing, navigating by GPS and knowing what supplies to include in your pack, even on a day trip, are examples of foundational skills that will allow you to step outside with confidence.

To gain a better insight into how people get in trouble on their outdoor trips, I contacted Dan Collings, OPP emergency response team leader for the central region of Ontario. "Number one, not prepared," was Collings' response to why people need search and rescue services. "Not dressed properly, minimal food, water and emergency supplies, no trip plan and they didn't let anyone know where they are going," and sometimes people "didn't even take a map" preferring to rely on their phones for navigation. Some had a compass but didn't know how to use it. Most of Collings' rescues were day trippers, those heading out for a brief, good time in nature.

A lack of preparation and skills can result in that sinking feeling that comes with the realization you are lost in the wilderness. Panic slowly bubbles up to the surface when what is needed is calm and clear-headed decisions. When staring at a forest of trees that all look the same, a vast network of nature can feel claustrophobic. Collings has experience with several lost person search events in Queen Elizabeth II Wildlands Provincial Park south of Minden. QE II "has become a nemesis" of the OPP search and rescue team, says Collings. As a non operating provincial park, it does not have maintained public facilities or services. Their website makes it clear that visitors need "to be prepared to use appropriate route finding and safety practices as interior travel beyond access points requires complex navigating in a remote semi-wilderness environment." Travel into wild areas comes with responsibility. It is incumbent on you to be prepared before heading out on your outdoor adventure.

To help avoid difficulties on your forays into the backcountry, hands on outdoor skills training opportunities are available at Deep Roots Adventures. Deep Roots has been in business for 14 years and for Mansfield, owning an adventure company it is a dream come true. Her work allows Mansfield to "share my passion for the outdoors and the empowerment that comes with feeling capable and confident in that environment." With a background as an Army Cadet instructor and local search and rescue volunteer, Mansfield is a self-taught naturalist with certifications in a variety of outdoor pursuits. Mansfield states that, "in the backcountry, there are very real consequences of going in unprepared." To help address this issue, she is offering workshops called Skills Development for Outdoor Enthusiasts Series. This set of workshops are designed to be a foundation to the necessary outdoor core competencies that can be further developed through experience or more advanced courses.

With names like Mastering Maps, Conquering Your Compass and Trip Planning in Two Parts, Mansfield has designed these outdoor skills sessions in manageable, three-hour blocks. For Mansfield, this approach will allow participants to be "met where they are at in their need for outdoor skills." You can take one workshop or all six running from 1 to 4:30 p.m. on Sundays at the Haliburton Highlands Museum. With Glebe Park in its backyard, the museum is a great staging area for outdoor training.

The workshops will help participants to become more comfortable and adept at utilizing map, compass and GPS for both planning and on the ground navigation. The trip planning workshop puts the navigation component together with planning for food, fuel, travel, trip companions and more to make sure your trips are a success. The knots and lashings workshop is an added bonus to anyone's skill set, giving you a quiver of useful and easy to use knots and lashings for everything from slinging your hammock to critter proofing your food at your campsite.

There are many ways to learn the necessary skills. Travel with someone more experienced or practice skills gleaned from YouTube videos. There are websites on trip preparedness like Adventuresmart.ca and the 10 essential items to pack www.mec.ca/en/explore/the-10-essentials-hiking-camping. However, nothing can match being able to ask questions and learning experientially while being taught by someone in the know.

Whether you are a regular outdoorsperson or a recent aficionado to the joys of backcountry experiences, having adequate training to get you out there and back will help you relax while enjoying your nature time. If something goes wrong, panic will take a back seat to a calm approach to decision-making as you will have the skills to support you. Be wise and challenge yourself incrementally, know your limits and pick routes that match your experience and skill. Most importantly though, get out there and enjoy all the wonderful natural areas that surround us in the beautiful Haliburton Highlands.

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Zach, played by Ruairi Byrnes, Grade 5, shreds on the electric guitar.

Rock on!

School of Rock students throw up the rock on sign after a musical number in Camexicanus and Backroad Arts Collective's production of *School of Rock* on Wednesday, Nov. 23 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavillion in Haliburton. The musical was Camexicanus' youth show of 2022, and was directed and performed by youth. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Ned Schneebly, played by Ethan Chartrand, left, and Dewey Finn, played by Darian Willis, rock out during a scene in their apartment.

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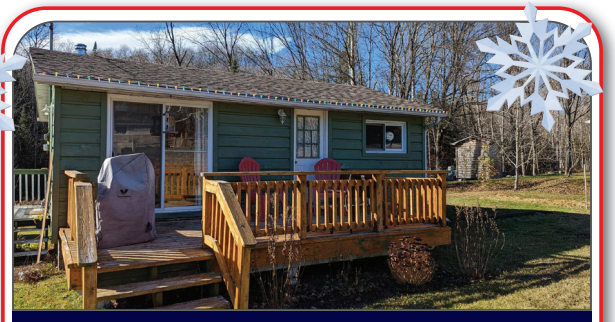

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County Life is produced by The Haliburton County Echo and Minden Times, and published by White Pine Media Corp.

Audited circulation: 6,372 July 1 - Dec 31, 2015

Safely helping deer in winter

CLEM GROB
Special to *County Life*

A doe shows her white tail, surprised by a sound to her right. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

White-tailed deer in Ontario do not hibernate, instead they aggregate in "yards" where they have access to food and adequate protection from harsh winter weather. Although the name may remind you of an open field of grass, yards are typically located within coniferous forests. Coniferous trees such as hemlock, pine, spruce and fir provide physical cover from snowfall and predators, while acting as a food source for the deer over the winter.

Over the winter, these deer establish trails throughout the yard to save energy. With up to 400 centimetres of annual snowfall and reduced forage, these animals must be energetically sparing.

After all, these deer will travel up to 95 kilometres to find a suitable yard!

With the first snowfall in Haliburton county now past, the deer's usual forage of green foliage and tree nuts is running low, so they begin to switch to above ground twigs, tree bark, buds, and anything else they can find.

Feeding deer throughout the winter is a controversial topic. We all want to help our deer populations, but how can we do so safely?

Human feeding either artificially (putting out corn or oats) or naturally by cutting down trees for extra forage may increase the population in a region where the carrying capacity is naturally lower. In the following winter, if extra forage is not provisioned, there may not be enough food for the entire population to survive.

One must ask themselves, "Can I sustain this feed all winter, every winter?" If a continuous supply cannot be maintained all winter, the animals may suffer from starvation.

However, the MNRF guidelines to deer feeding proposes that emergency feeding at the end of a long, harsh winter may be beneficial to deer populations by preventing large die-offs. In January, White-tailed deer naturally reduce their movement and foraging behavior to save energy.

Fat stores run extremely low at the end of these harsh winters, as does food availability, so increasing forage at this time may improve survival outcomes. Also, female deer may have higher survival rates of their fawns in the following spring.

At the end of the day, feeding deer through the winter should be left to environmental organizations when it is needed. In the meantime, there are many other ways to help our deer populations. For example, avoiding the use of non-native species on your property, and planting native year-round forage for the animals.

Top 10 things your dog means when barking at the front door

I HAVE ALWAYS wondered what my dog is trying to tell me when it barks at the front door. So, over the last year or so, I have been watching her intently and trying to break the code in order to understand this better. As far as I can tell, here are the top 10 things she is saying. Maybe yours is saying the same.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

1. It's either right here or outside. You decide.
2. The squirrels are attacking! The squirrels are attacking!
3. Yeah, but can a wolf do this?
4. Hey. That dog and human are copying what we do!
5. I believe I've discovered the meaning of life! Want to hear it?
6. We should take this magical portal to the alternate dimension again.
7. If you don't want me to bark, get me an indoor fire hydrant!
8. I know we were out an hour ago, but that's seven hours to me.
9. I'm late for work. Those new smells aren't going to sniff themselves.
10. Hurry! I remember where I buried that bone!

Listen

Slants of light sliding down from Sky,
slipping through the columns of pines,
bathing the bronze and copper leaves, carpeting the forest floor.
I sit on a stump, in a puddle of Sun, inhaling light and the quiet that surrounds me,
on a day when I prefer the company of trees, sometimes better listeners, than human ears,
as I share my thoughts and secret fears, offering their presence without impatience or complaint,
giving me the space I crave, without foisting opinions on me.
A rustling, crinkling the forest floor, an invisible critter skitters through the shriveling leaves.
My eyes sweep across the ground, but I can't see,
wondering whether chipmunks and squirrels sense my presence, as I trespass across their terrain
seeking silence and peace, as they forage for food and build their shelter, more productive than me,
whiling away the afternoon, meandering amongst the trees, my ears leading me towards a stream,
its trickle, a tonic, as I peer down into the water, clear as Air,
clambering down to be closer to the sound, the ground slipping beneath my feet,
as I grip the trunks of pines, to steady me, sliding down the slope 'till I reach the stream,
inhaling Air that's crisp and clean, the gurgling of autumn water, invigorating me,
as I crouch by a boulder and watch leaves trickle past, wondering where the stream leads,
whether it will flow into a River or be swallowed by the forest floor, continuing to trickle underground.
I peer up at the pillars of pines, their presence, protecting me,
their silence, amplified by the flow of the stream, this forest shrine that receives my thoughts
and transforms them into feelings of peace and certainty,
bidding So Long to the stream, as I clamber back up the slope, gripping the trunks of pines, so I don't slip,
the light changing, as the forest grows thicker, the leaves crunching beneath my feet,
curling into darkness, and I quicken my pace before dusk gulps all the light,
glancing up at the tops of pines, grateful for their steady presence,
each time they welcome me back into their Home, without complaint,
wondering whether I can do the same,
the next time somebody begins babbling their stream of words into my ears,
revealing their thoughts and secret fears,
the least I can do is stand still and silent as the pines,
and listen.

Sylvie Kalenda

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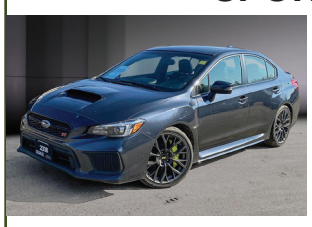

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Hospital foundation welcomes new executive director

JAMES MATTHEWS
County Life Staff

Lisa Tompkins feels confident the helm of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation is in good hands under the stewardship of Melanie Klodt Wong.

Tompkins spent 20 years with the foundation, the last five as executive director after 15 years as a volunteer member of the board. She is retiring and and has passed the torch to Klodt Wong, who has taken the reins as the foundation's new executive director.

And Tompkins said she's thrilled Klodt Wong was chosen to be her replacement.

"She's really going to take this foundation forward," she said. "Melanie has learned a lot about the organization very quickly and I have the utmost confidence she's going to keep doing great things here."

Lisa Tompkins, left, is passing off the executive director position of Haliburton Highlands Health Services to Melanie Klodt Wong, who is eager to dive into her new role. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Klodt Wong exhibits an eagerness to delve face-and-eyes into her role at the foundation which is a conduit between the community and its health care services.

"I'm feeling very supported as I look to what we're going to do next and what's coming," Klodt Wong said.

Klodt Wong grew up in a rural community in the Niagara region, but she would cottage and spend a lot of time in the Haliburton County area when she was younger, she said.

"My understanding of community and how vast this community is ... I have a good understanding of that," she said of the unique mixture of full-time and seasonal residents.

"I am enjoying learning and meeting new people and building relationships within the community. I've had the good fortune of working with such a supportive board of directors. Lisa Tompkins has been fantastic transitioning over with me."

Tompkins said she'll miss her involvement with the foundation, and she'll maintain some form of connection as part of the public.

"I've really seen how this very generous community has time and time again, year over year, supported quality health care in this community," she said.

That community support makes the role of executive director easier.

"It's really knitted into the fabric of this community," Tompkins said.

Klodt Wong said there's already been so much work done over the years to build a fine health care system and important community services. The foundation just launched its annual holiday season fundraising campaign.

Some of the priorities for the campaign include a nurse call-bell system for long-term care homes which will improve communications and help people feel more secure in their environments. The foundation also has its eye on new smart intravenous (IV) pumps.

"We're raising funds for both of those major things, as well as community services," she said.

Community services like Meals on Wheels have made more of an impact in light of heightened food insecurity and the current tighter economy. To that end, the foundation is subsidizing the program that delivers food to senior citizens and people with disabilities.

"This is a big time of year for us," Klodt Wong said. "For getting funds for big projects and the hospital. We raise a lot of money around the holidays."

The foundation hosts an online 50/50 lottery each month, and Klodt Wong said this time of year presents an opportunity for people to gift tickets to family and friends.

"We have some really big goals, and we want to raise more money than we have in the past," she said. "We have a few different options and different ways people can give."

Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

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As the Christmas season commences, The Haliburton County Home Builders Association would like to encourage you to include its Christmas Challenge in your plans. Large or small, each gift will help fill the Christmas hampers distributed by the Food Banks in Haliburton County. If you aren't sure what to collect simply gather local gift certificates.
Option 1: Call - text 705-457-6901, email info@hchba.ca in advance to arrange a date to pick up your gifts. We will take them to the local distribution centers.
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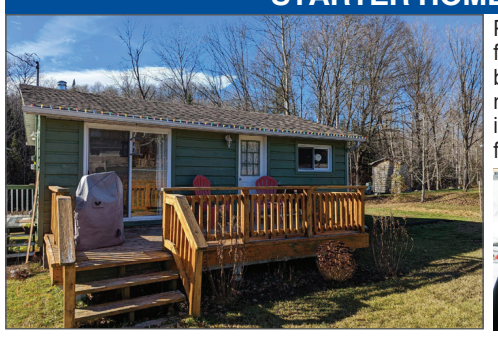

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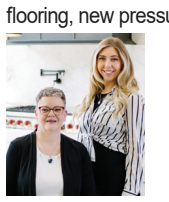

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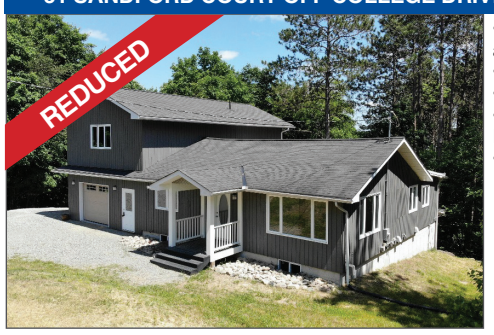

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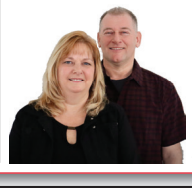

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"We partner with SIRCH to distribute some of their free Community Kitchen meals to those in need. When you think about the things we take for granted like going to the grocery store, buying what we feel like eating for dinner, or always having milk in our fridge, we forget that this is not the reality for many in our community. SIRCH meals have saved the day many times by helping feed those who would otherwise have no food at all. These frozen meals have such an impact on our community. It is important that we find a way to keep this program flourishing."

- Community Partner

Because of your generosity, in the last 10 months SIRCH has provided over 10,500 portions of nutritious food FREE to those in need, 725 hours of training, helped 81 children succeed in school and diverted 77,500 cubic feet from the landfill per month! Help us continue to help our community.

SIRCH community services

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"I am a single parent with 3 children. I won't lie, I often struggle with how to pay the bills and put food on the table. Sometimes I feel so discouraged and afraid. Recently I was given some of the Community Kitchen meals that SIRCH makes, and that was a life saver! I am so grateful to everyone who donates to that program. There are a lot of people who might not be fed without the help from SIRCH."

"I'm a senior on a pension, and I rarely have enough money to get me through the month. At times, my fridge and freezer are empty, and my supper is toast and tea. Having SIRCH meals makes all the difference to me. The meals are always healthy, made with real meat and vegetables. It's safe to say that I might not be here without them."

Please mail this form to SIRCH Community Services, P.O. Box 687, 49 Maple Avenue, Unit 4, Haliburton ON K0M 1S0.

☐ $25 ☐ $50 ☐ $100 ☐ Other $_____

☐ I wish to make a monthly donation on my credit card. Amount $_____

☐ Cheque enclosed (payable to SIRCH Community Services)

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card Number: _____ Card Expiry Date: _____

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SIRCH community services

Gifts from the Heart

Writing on the Senior Side

Stealing a little fun at Christmas

GAIL STELTER
Special to *County Life*

The formal evening gloves reach up beyond the elbows. The feelings of wealth and celebrations past are brought to life by the fur stole, and the ensemble is complete with the turban style hat. It is a beautiful August afternoon, and we are all outside on the deck. My son-in-law is wearing this elegant attire, and we are laughing. It is priceless. In the next round, the outfit is stolen by my daughter-in-law who also looks ridiculously lovely. Christmas in August upholds the gift game as a fun tradition.

So, why in August? You will, of course, remember life in the COVID times. Yes, COVID is still with us today, but that year was one of the worst. Our family Christmas had been planned for Dec. 28, and for a while it looked very promising. New COVID rule: no more than 10 people, preferably immediate family, can gather together inside. When we are all together we total 21.

There is that moment when you want to see your children and grandchildren so much that you think, well maybe. It passes quickly, as we are not ones to break such a rule, and besides, what kind of role models would we be? So, Christmas is canceled, no not canceled, postponed. We keep the Christmas tree and put it outside on the deck. It will be ready to go for plan B, the Family Day weekend in February. No, that didn't happen, as we have another COVID postponement.

So how about plan C: Christmas during March Break. That should work. It did not. The Christmas tree is still on the deck. With so much COVID sadness and death in our world, a delayed Christmas seems a small sacrifice indeed. It really is OK. So, Christmas in August works, and it's time to take that dead tree off the deck and prepare for its demise at a campfire.

The gift game is for the adults. In the early days of grandchildren, we used to wait until the little ones were in bed. Now, the kids love watching their parents, aunts, uncle and grandparents playing the gift game. Did you guess what the theme of the Christmas in August gift game? Perhaps I should have mentioned, the gift of the mug shaped like a toilet with brown paper in it. Oh, you know now, don't you? It was the movie *Christmas Vacation*.

Each adult brings a wrapped gift and we draw names. The first name drawn chooses a gift and opens it. The name drawn in the second round can steal the open gift or choose another one from the table/tree. There are a couple of more "rules," but you get the idea. I know some of you have played this at Christmas gatherings, and if not, you may wish to give it a try. It is always fun, and with some Christmas cheer, it can be a holly jolly good time.

In our family, the person who is deemed to have provided the best gift chooses the theme for the next year. Last year, the theme was "all things Seinfeldian," and with COVID concerns in one family, only three of our four children were able to attend. Remaining hopeful that Christmas 2022 will have all of us together again, but you never know. COVID again? Indeed, we have all come to a better understanding of the tenuous state of being in good health. And, for those of you for whom Christmas brings sad thoughts of those who have gone before, let it also bring the joy of happy thoughts of those same people.

The gift game theme this year is 1950s Christmas. Oh my, we chuckle when we hear this. We lived the 1950s Christmas, and I am guessing so did many of you. So, what to get for my gift game gift? What would you choose? The first thought that comes to mind is a red tin Christmas tray with a picture of Elvis on it, and it will be even better if Elvis is wearing a Coca Cola Santa sweater. We may have left cookies and milk for Santa, but deep down inside, we knew Santa preferred Coke. In the 50s, the Coca Cola-ization of the world was happening in a big way, and when we were teens in the 60s, with no fast food restaurants to cloud our thinking, every walk with friends to the local restaurant included an order of fries and a Coke. There were some arguments that perhaps Pepsi was better, but if Santa preferred Coke, it surely had to be the best. There were some of us who couldn't really tell the difference, but this very unimportant argument could and did last for years. Yes, I think I will have to include Coca Cola Santa in this year's gift.

Peter is on the lookout for mini bricks. His other choice would be all things cowboy. That would work for me too, as I had my own holster and guns. What would today's parents think?

How about a real record; a Christmas album? Oh how I wish I'd kept my album of the Ray Conniff Singers, or was that the 1960s? My dad and I would have such fun playing the Ray Confiff over and over and singing along. Ray Conniff taught me the *Twelve Days of Christmas,* and I was pretty proud when I could sing it by heart. Added to Ray Conniff were my mother's Perry Como and Dean Martin Christmas albums. I suppose they would be collectors items now; no doubt part of the renewed enthusiasm for mid-century modern. I lived mid-century modern and, as they said in those days, it was not my cup of tea.

My second choice is a sock, not a stocking, a sock; a knee sock would work. I will put a lump of coal in the toe, an orange and an apple; not just any apple, but a red delicious apple, with the little bumps at the top and very hard skin. Then, I will add a colouring book and a nice new box of crayons and a box of chalk. Oh, I might as well go all out. I will add a box of coloured chalk too and finish the sock off with a candy cane, Crackerjacks and a chocolate. At the top of the sock, I will put in a safety pin so it can be pinned to the Chesterfield, not sofa, not couch, a 1950s Chesterfield. It will be perfect. I will probably have to add a gift card of some sort to get the value of my gift up to the $35 limit. Wait, gift cards are so not 1950s. No, that won't do. Clearly, I will have to think about this some more.

Colleen & Blake would like to thank all their customers for their support and friendship over the past 25 years.

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Two birds brawl on top a birch stump. /Submitted by Ray Kidon

A doe cautiously looks ahead at dusk. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

Turkeys discover a snack under melted snow. /Submitted by Ray Kidon

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Do something Dramatic this summer

Get to know the Huskies: Boyd Stahlbaum

ALEX GALLACHER

Special to *County Life*

Despite starting the season with a different team, Boyd Stahlbaum has quickly found his footing on the Huskies roster. Moving over from the Lindsay Muskies in October, the Peterborough, Ontario player is hungry and ready to help lead the team to glory.

Starting his career with the Peterborough Petes AAA, Stahlbaum logged 40 points in his last season of U18 which was good enough to get him noticed by OHL and OJHL teams.

"I started playing hockey when I was about three years old," Stahlbaum said. "My dad coached junior hockey like 20 years ago, so he really pushed me to play. I played two years of midget before I got drafted in the 15th round of the OHL draft. I went on to play two seasons in Lindsay and now I'm here in Haliburton."

After being drafted by the Kingston Frontenacs, Stahlbaum attended a handful of development camps before finding himself on the roster of the Lindsay Muskies. In Lindsay, he managed 76 points for the club, with 38 goals over two seasons.

He was acquired by the Huskies in a blockbuster trade on Oct. 26, and since then, has put up 18 points in seven games with nine goals. When most players get traded, there is good chance that they will be moving far away from their homes as well as the team they were traded from. However, for Stahlbaum, not only is he less than two hours away from his hometown, he also was traded only 45 minutes down Highway 35, which made the transition a lot easier.

"The transition was great," Stalhbaum said. "The boys welcomed me here with open arms, and I love it here so far. The team has been great, and I feel I've played with more control which suits my style very well. I'm also playing with a lot of top tiered guys as well, which I love."

The Huskies have been making huge moves over the past few weeks to strengthen the team. From bringing in goalie Aiden Spooner, players Ty Collins, Zack Terry and Luca Rea, one thing is for sure in the locker room: this team is ready and capable to win.

Sitting second in the North East division four points behind the Junior Canadiens, Stahlbaum knows his role on the team is to help the offense and score goals.

"Every guy on this time wants to win," Stahlbaum said. "You can see it in the locker room and with the coaching staff. I think this team has a great chance to go all the way, and that's why I wanted to come here and jump on the train."

Following his junior career, Stahlbaum wants to continue playing hockey. Whether it be in school or overseas, the love of hockey is something that will never go away for the Huskies No. 42.

In only two seasons, the Huskies have had two NCAA commitments with another handful of OUA commitments as well. Despite being a new club, the Huskies have shown they are already a premier place to impress the schools.

"My plan right now is to go to school," Stahlbaum added. "Whether it is in the States or Canada, I'm not too sure yet, but if for whatever reason that doesn't work out. I want to still play hockey in some capacity. Whether it be overseas, or a pro team down in the States, I love the game and hope to still play."

Boyd Stahlbaum, from Peterborough, Ontario, joined the Haliburton County Huskies in October, and says he loves the team and the area. /Chris Harris OJHL

While the Huskies push for the playoffs, Stahlbaum said he is most looking forward to the remaining divisional match ups between teams like Trenton and JRC. Each game moving forward is extra important as seeding for the playoffs has been expanded since the North and East conferences were merged.

With each divisional game being played essentially as a must win, the Huskies fans have been a huge help in propelling the team past some tough opponents.

"The support here is second to none," Stahlbaum concluded. "When the team scores, it gives you goosebumps with the great environment here. When we are down, you hear the fans chanting and cheering it really motivates us to try harder to win that game for them. I absolutely love it."

As the Huskies look to continue on, Stahlbaum shared one of his favourite pastimes during the off season. When not playing hockey, Stahlbaum can be found fishing around the various lakes in the County. Fishing is a hobby that requires a lot of patience; something Stahlbaum displays both on and off the ice.

Legion Events

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge every Monday at 1 p.m. Schofield Room.
Tuesdays: League darts starting at 7 p.m.
Wednesdays:
Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall.
Bingo doors open at 6 p.m.
Bingo starts at 7 p.m. $500 Jackpot - $1000 Jackpot - last Wednesday of the month
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, starting at 7 p.m. All members urged to attend.
Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Meat draw has five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC.
Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards.
Saturdays: 50/50 Draw 4 p.m. draw – tickets are $1 each available in the Clubroom.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call the Legion today at 705-457-2571, email rcll129@outlook.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129 ... everyone is welcome!
Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m. and Sat. 3 to 6 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Monday to Thursday Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with regular menu and daily special including Liver Lovers' Tuesday.
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Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541
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Monday: Rug Hookers every second week
Tuesday: Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Schedules are subject to change without notice, so contact each Legion for updates.

Wilberforce

Dec. 8: 2 to 6 p.m. HHHS Social Rec Christmas Party 10-1pm
Dec. 9: 2 to 9 p.m. - Wing night and Jam session 5 to 8 p.m.
Dec. 10: 2 to 5 p.m. Meat Draw 3 p.m.
Dec. 11: LA Breakfast 9 to -11 a.m.
Dec. 12 Closed
Dec. 13: Open 4 p.m. General meeting 7 p.m.
Dec. 14: 2-6 p.m. Darts 2 p.m.
Everyone welcome! If you are planning a function for social or other event providing our guidelines/conditions are met, please feel free to contact us at 705-448-2221.

Friday dinners are in jeopardy due to lack of volunteers. Janice S needs to step back so if interested please reach out ASAP to help out.

HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES

Home Games
S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena
WWW.HUSKIESHOCKEY.CA

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Saturday, Dec 17 @ 4 p.m.
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Sunday, December 11 @ 4 p.m.

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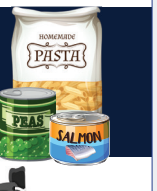

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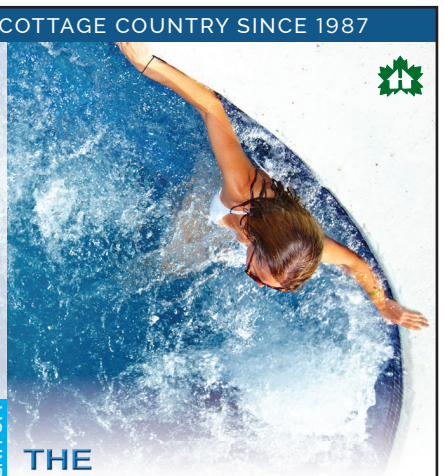

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25 Words
Your ad will run in
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Quality Work, Reasonable Rates
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Roofing - Garages
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The Holiday season is fast approaching - time to think about getting your Kitchen Aid Stand Alone Mixer serviced and ready for your holiday baking. We have New and Refurbished Kitchen Aid Mixers for sale warrantied - they make a great Gift. Call Cliff Harding at **705-286-3351**

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Permanent, full time position available.
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Location: Haliburton
Required Credentials:
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Contact Churko Electric at 705-457-4576
email steve@churkoelectric.com

REPUTABLE BUILDING CONTRACTOR
looking for a person with carpentry experience.
Must have a valid drivers license.
PLEASE CALL **705.754.4603**

The Times Minden Ontario | The Echo Haliburton County | Bancroft This Week

The Haliburton Echo and *Minden Times* are seeking a
part-time Graphic Designer
to join our award winning newspaper team.

The successful applicant will be organized, work well under pressure, and must be detail-oriented.
Experience in newspaper ad design and layout would be an asset.
Adobe InDesign and Photoshop is a must.

Working remotely will be considered with the right candidate.

Please send resume to Publisher David Zilstra by Dec. 21, 2022
david.zilstra@haliburtonpress.com

DECEMBER 10TH
11:00 AM
'til
1:00 PM

Haliburton FOODLAND
Fresh food. Friendly neighbours.

Jim Allder*
705-935-1112

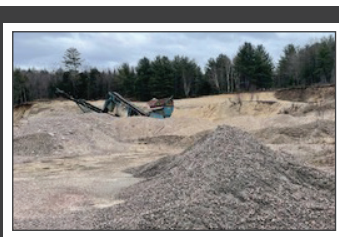
North Pigeon Lake $775,000

- 3 bedroom / 1 bathroom, 900 SqFt
- Fully Winterized, Newly Built Bunkie
- Large Updated Windows Overlooking Lake
- Breathtaking Sunrise Views

Adele Barry
705-457-0306

Haliburton Home $899,000

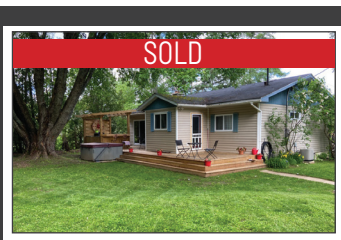
- 3 Beds, 3 Baths, 2100+ Sq Ft
- 2.3 Acres, 3 Season Screened Porch
- Beautiful View of Barnum lake
- New 24x40 Detached Heated Shop



Dagmar Boettcher**
457-5968

Hunter Creek Rd $975,000

- Class B licensed pit & quarry
- 88 acres close to Minden
- Potential to sever lots



Andy Campbell
854-0292

Pine Lake

- 5 Beds / 3 Baths, 2,400 Sq Ft
- 1.36 Acres, Heated 3 Car Garage
- Outdoor Kitchen, Hot Tub & Guesthouse
- Only 15 Minutes From Town of Haliburton!

Gloria Carnochan* & Brean Budel*
754-1932

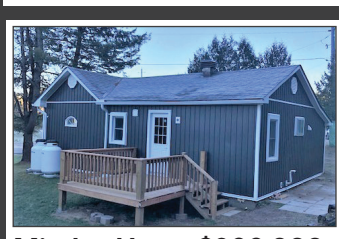
Level Lot Green LK Rd South Exp

- Build Your Home Or Cottage With Lake Views
- Level Lot, Easy To Build On, School Bus Route
- Put The Boat In, Go Fishing Or Tour 3 Lk Chain
- Walk 2 West Guilford 4 Store, Restaurant, Lcbo

Mark Dennys*
457-0473

HALIBURTON CONDOMINIUM - $699,900

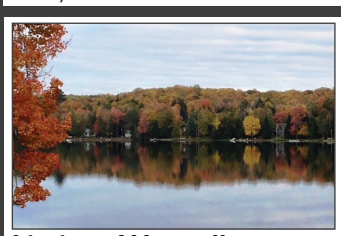
- 1236 Sq Ft, 3rd Flr, 2 Bdrm, 2 Bath, A/C
- Large Balcony w/ Entertainment Space/Views
- Head Lake (5 Lake Chain), Move-in Ready
- Underground Parking, Close to Walking Trails



Tom Ecclestone*
286-2138 x 226

Minden Home $399,000

- 2 Beds / 1 Bath, 700+ Sq Ft
- All New Windows, Siding, Electrical & More!
- Totally Renovated From Top to Bottom
- Close to Town for All Amenities!



Lindsay Elder**
457-5878

Listings Wanted!

- If you're thinking of selling...CALL ME!
- Strike while the market is hot!

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Broker
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info@melaniehevesi.com

Melanie Hevesi**
854-1000

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- Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist
- Thinking about selling in today's market?
- Call ME TODAY!

Andrew Hodgson**
286-2138 x 229

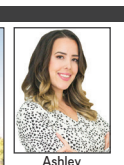
Haliburton Home $579,000

- Updated, open concept 3 bedrooms bungalow
- Full basement w/high ceilings to finish to your taste
- Spacious & private 2+ acre parcel just outside town
- Plus a large Quonset hut with separate driveway

Susanne James* & Andy Mosher**
457-2128 x 133

Miskwabi Lake

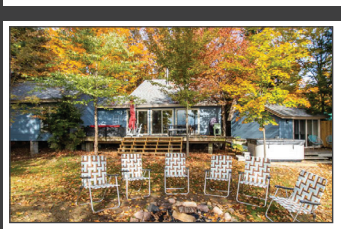
- 4-season cottage on awesome 2-lake chain
- Clean deep shoreline, big lake view, western sunset
- Year-round Municipal road access, 20 mins from Haliburton Village



Ashley McKeigue
705- 854-1833

Kashagawigamog Lk $1,675,000

- Year-round home or cottage close to town
- 3 bedrooms, 3 baths across 3 finished levels
- 1 bedroom, 1 bath loft over new 2-car garage
- 100' of frontage with sunset exp & sand beach!



Donna McCallum*
455-2054

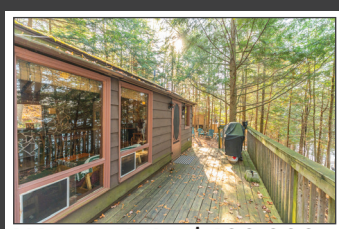
Haliburton Lake $1,199,900

- 3 Beds / 2 Bath + Loft, 1300+ SqFt
- 100ft of Clean Frtg, Sun All Day
- Bunkie, Sauna, Lakeside Hot Tub
- 10 Mins to Fort Irwin, 20 Mins to Hali

Brandon Nimigon***
457-2128 x 127

Building Lot $238,000

- 290ft of Frtg, Close Proximity to Eagle Lk
- Nicely Treed 2.6 Acre Parcel
- Off Grid Property, Driveway Roughed In
- Abutting Properties For Sale!



Karen Nimigon**
457-6505

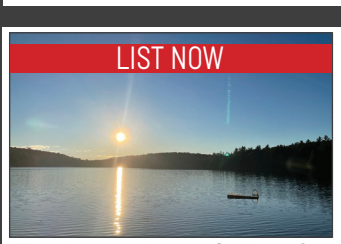
Wenona Lake $400,000

- 2 Beds / 1 Bath, 470+ Sq Ft
- Gorgeous west facing Sunsets & Sunshine!
- Lakeside Dock w/Sitting Area, Large Deck
- Live the Dream!

Kelly Kay*
705-457-6841
Kirsten Rae*
705-854-1454

Haliburton Condo $695,000

- Luxurious waterfront condo in Haliburton
- 1117 sq ft, 2 bath, 2 bedrooms plus den/office
- Many upgrades plus incredible water views from every room!



Darlene Reil*
447-2055

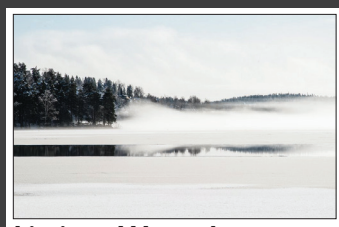
Thinking About Selling?

- This is the time to think about listing
- Listings Needed!
- Call today for more information

Christine Sharp*
705-489-9968

Private, Building Lot $159,000

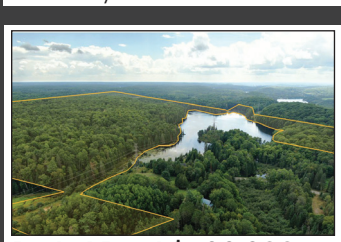
- 2 Acre Forested Lot
- Beautiful Mixture of Pine & Maple Trees
- Public Access to Basshaunt Lake Close By
- Few Mins From All Amenities of Eagle Lake



Greg Stamp*
457-2128 x 128

Listings Wanted

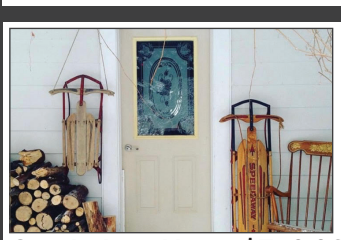
- If you're thinking of buying or selling...
- Call me today for a free evaluation!
- Happy Holidays!



Melanie Vigrass*
286-2138 x 232

Bethel Road $599,900

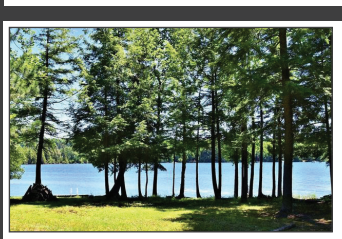
- Incredible 194-acre parcel 5 mins from Minden
- Long gated driveway - private, cleared building site
- Large frontage on picturesque Walker's Pond
- Trails throughout to explore, teaming with wildlife



Tom Wilkinson*
286-2138 x 225

Gooderham Home $759,900

- 3 Bedrooms / 1 Bathroom, 1400+ Sq Ft
- Sits on 2.96 Acres, Cutest Little Hobby Farm!
- Beautiful Gardens & Very Well Maintained Barn



Andrea Wilson**
705-457-6694

Seeking Properties

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- Call me to discuss your options in this active market.

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INSIDE THIS WEEK:

The View From India
Megan Paul describes the local reaction to the terrortist attack in Mumbai

A Winning Streak
Matt Duchene and Cody Hodgson hope they caught the eyes of Team Canada coaches

Women Curlers Rock
Haliburton club honours two founding members; draw is a big winner too

THE ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY
www.haliburtonecho.ca

Tuesday, December 2, 2008

Vol. 125 No. 49 $1.25 incl. GST

County gets million dollars for high speed

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

Haliburton County is getting up to speed with the rest of the province thanks to a $1 million grant.

The county was one of the few places in Ontario to receive the maximum possible amount of money under the Rural Connections Broadband Program. Fifteen municipalities or counties were awarded a total of $8.8 million in Friday's announcement.

The $1 million from the province will be matched with $560,000 from the county and $2.24 million from Bell Aliant. The $3.8 million investment in the county's broadband infrastructure will be spread out over two years and speed up an existing plan to connect rural residents to broadband technologies. Some of the county's investment will be in-kind contributions.

"I'm just so excited," says county treasurer Laura Janke, who worked on the county's application. "One of the things they look at is how many gaps [in service] will get closed and Haliburton County has so many gaps."

See **High speed** *page 20*

MARTHA PERKINS/Echo

Enough already!

Seventy-eight-year-old Beno Luna thinks winter arrives too early and leaves too late. Nearly every morning he's out in front of his house on Luna's Hill on the Harburn Road, shovelling away the new snowfall. Sir Sam's Ski Area is happy about the weather, however. It opens for the season on Saturday.

Board begins school review process Dec. 3

The Trillium Lakelands District School Board has filled two community representative positions on the Cardiff and Wilberforce Elementary School Program and Accommodation Review.

Dorian Young, who administrators and trustees know from his work on the district school council and former parent conferences, will represent the business community, and Councillor Suzanne Partridge will represent the council of Highlands East.

The first public input session for the PARC will be held Wednesday, December 3, at Cardiff Elementary School.

Uranium foes wait for province to change its act

MATT JAMES
Staff Reporter

The anti-uranium mining group *FUME and its founders* Christine Atrill and Robin Simpson are taking a much-needed break from their battle to reform *Ontario's Mining Act but that* doesn't mean they want others to stop adding their voices to the cause.

The province's public meetings are over but input will be accepted until January 9.

"What we're hoping is to get a whole pile of people to write [the government] and get more impact," said Simpson, "to give us a couple more months of push here."

Simpson is encouraging anyone opposed to uranium mining in Haliburton County to write a letter to the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines. Along with the letter writers' thoughts and opinions, Simpson suggests writers cut and paste in FUME's Three Modest Proposals. They can be found on the FUME website, www.fighturanium.com, under the "campaign" heading.

It's been a hectic fall for Simpson. The madness began in August when mining minister Michael Gravelle announced meetings to review and modernize Ontario's Mining Act.

See **FUME** *page 20*

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September 15, 2008 to December 31, 2008 (Products must be purchased within these dates to receive the instant savings!)
* See participating dealer for complete details.

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RAHFISH KUMA OUTDOOR GEAR YETI Badlands

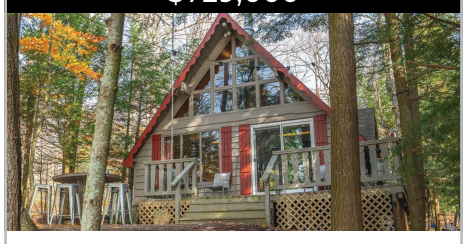
"THEY OFTEN SAY IT TAKES A VILLAGE.

BUT HERE IN HALIBURTON COUNTY, IT TAKES A TEAM."

- LINDA BAUMGARTNER | BROKER + OWNER

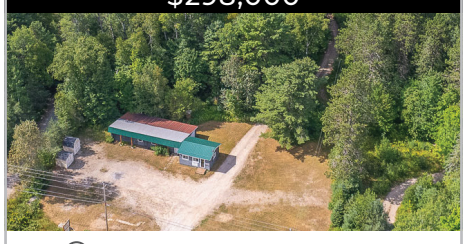
BAUMGARTNER B|R REALTY GROUP

WENONA LAKE
$729,000



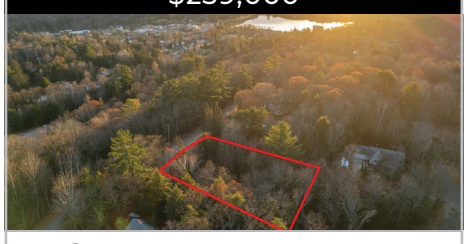
2 X BED | .496 ACRES | 670 SQ.FT
3 X BATH | 95 FT. FRONTAGE | MLS# 40339434

BUILDING AND LAND
$298,000



COMMERICAL | 5.129 ACRES
2,000 SQ.FT WORKSHOP | MLS# 40310596

SUNNYSIDE STREET
$239,000



GREAT LOCATION | 0.408 ACRES
MUNICIPAL YEAR-ROUND RD. | MLS# 40343482

HARBURN RD.
$229,900

GREAT LOCATION | 16+ ACRES
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TOWER ROAD
$95,000

PRIVATE | 2.19 ACRES
OFF-GRID | MLS# 40343517

DRAG RIVER
$249,000

GREAT LOCATION | 2.87 ACRES
245 FT. FRONTAGE | MLS# 40350500

KC DAM ROAD
$650,000

3 X BED | 6.4 ACRES | 2321 SQ.FT
3 X BATH | INGROUND POOL | MLS# 40345292

WENONA LAKE
$1,399,000

3 X BED | .693 ACRES | 2273 SQ.FT
3 X BATH | 125 FT. FRONTAGE | MLS# 40332600

KENNISIS LAKE
$2,125,000

4 X BED | 6.27 ACRES | 1900 SQ.FT
3 X BATH | 642.78 FT. FRONTAGE | MLS# 40275471

★★★★★

Thanks so much for all your hard work and making the sale of our cottage a great success. We could never have gotten the results that we had without your Team. I will definitely recommend your service to anyone I know that is looking to buy or sell in the Haliburton area.
- A & S Millson, July 2020

★★★★★

So many thanks to you and all of your Team ... we can't say enough good things about your services. You were all really out there working for us, and you got the results.

-C. Bugden

★★★★★

We appreciate all the help we have been given throughout this process. It has made the whole experience much less stressful than we anticipated. Linda and her Team certainly deserve a pat on the back for the dedication and professionalism we have received as clients, well done!
– C&P Fleig

3rd Annual Haliburton County Food & Toy Drive

HAPPENING
NOVEMBER 14 - DECEMBER 11

Shopping List

WEEK 4 - DEC. 5 TO 11

December 5 - Canned Mixed Veggies
December 6 - Canned Carrots
December 7 - Canned Green Beans
December 8 - Canned Peas
December 9 - Package of Cookies
December 10 - Package of Muffin Mix
December 11 - Package of Granola Bars

DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

MINDEN
12621 Highway 35, Unit 1
Mon to Fri 9 - 5

HALIBURTON
191 Highland St, Suite 201
Mon to Fri 9 - 5

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